

What will happen if there is a confirmed or suspected COVID-19 case at DBS

The COVID-19 coronavirus is likely to be with us for quite some time; we have to learn to live with it and get on with College life. It is very likely that we will have cases of COVID-19 in the College and if we do we need to be able to deal with them quickly and calmly, for the sake of the person who is ill and the rest of the DBS community. This document gives some guidance and information where there is a suspected or actual case in the College.

What if I develop symptoms?

If you are currently on campus

If you develop symptoms during the day while you are on campus you need to act immediately. You should firstly say it to a staff member. If you are in class, that is likely to be your lecturer. If you are not in class you can speak to someone at Reception. Whomever you speak with will know what to do as we have developed a protocol and circulated it to all staff. The first thing they will do is to arrange for you to go to one of our isolation rooms, depending on the building you are in.

From the time you feel symptomatic, you must wear a facemask. This is for the protection of others. You must also

- Avoid touching people, surfaces and objects
- Cover your mouth and nose with the disposable tissue provided in the isolation room when you cough or sneeze and put the tissue in the waste bag provided
- Immediately call your doctor and follow the advice given.

We will arrange transport to your accommodation or to the hospital for Medical Assessment. Public transport of any kind should not be used. If there is any delay leaving the DBS premises, you must not leave the isolation room until you are leaving the building.

Your doctor will probably arrange for you to have a COVID-19 test. You should self-isolate in your accommodation until you either receive a negative test result or 14 days have passed.

If you are not currently on campus

If you are a ***suspected COVID-19 case***, where you experience symptoms or you have been told to isolate due to being considered in “close contact” with a confirmed case, and you are not currently on a DBS premises, you must

- Stay away from the College for 14 days from when you started getting symptoms or until you receive a negative result.
- Let us know as soon as possible if you get a positive test result.

If you are diagnosed as having COVID-19 our Student Experience team will check in with you to see what supports you need.

What if I receive a positive diagnosis?

If you receive a positive diagnosis of COVID-19 you need to do the following.

- Call your Programme Coordinator to tell them of the diagnosis. The Programme Coordinator will ask you some questions, including when were you last at a DBS building and which building(s)? (If it is less than 48 hours it is possible the virus is in the building(s) whereupon they will need to be closed and cleaned.)
- Stay away from the College for 14 days from when you received the positive diagnosis or until you get a negative result

If you have a positive diagnosis the contact tracing process of the Health Service Executive (the Irish public health service) will be activated.

Within DBS, if we have to close the buildings for cleaning we will need to inform staff and students. However, we will never reveal your identity.

During this time if you have to remain out of College for some days you can access all of your teaching online through Moodle. Similarly, if we need to close the buildings for cleaning or a longer period, teaching will continue uninterrupted online.